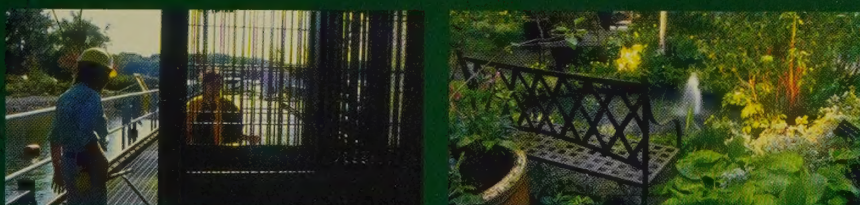


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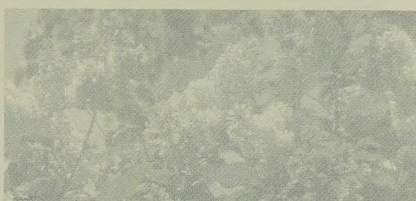
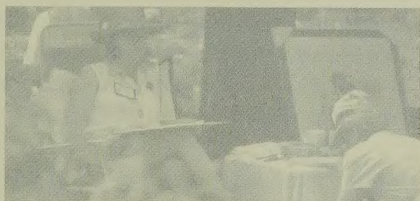


ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
Les jardins botaniques royaux

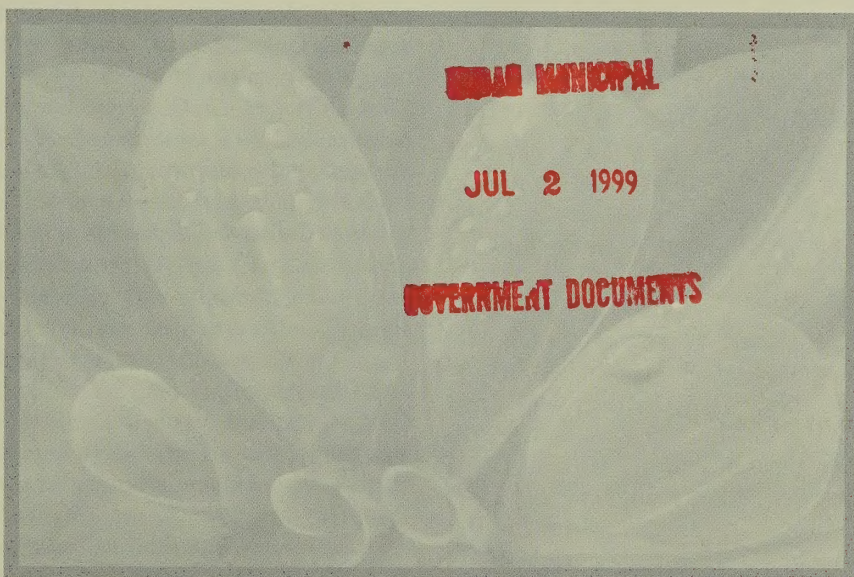


ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Les jardins botaniques royaux



The mission of Royal Botanical Gardens is to be recognized in Canada and throughout the world for our unique contribution to the collection, research, conservation, exhibition and interpretation of the plant world and the development of public understanding and appreciation of the relationship between the plant world, humanity and the rest of nature.

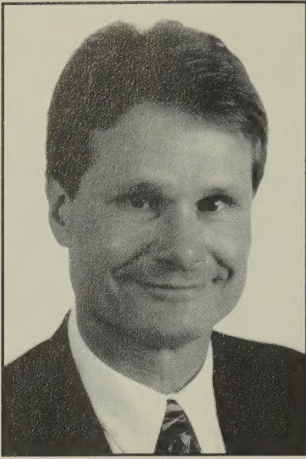


Aux jardins botaniques royaux, nous avons pour mission la reconnaissance au Canada et à travers le monde de notre unique apport à la collection, la recherche, la conservation, l'exposition et l'interprétation de la flore, et le développement de la compréhension et de l'appréciation par le public des rapports entre le monde végétal, l'humanité et le reste de la nature.

MISSION STATEMENT



Royal Botanical Gardens is funded by the people of Ontario through RBG Members, the RBG Auxiliary, many corporations, foundations, individuals, the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth and the Regional Municipality of Halton.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I complete my second year as President of Royal Botanical Gardens, I have the honour of reporting that 1998 was an exceptional year. With a little help from the weather, we set records for public participation at RBG. I would like to express the Board's gratitude to the staff and volunteers whose dedication and creativity are helping RBG become known as one of the most beautiful and engaging attractions in Ontario.

RBG is becoming celebrated across North America as a "must-see" destination. In fact, the American Bus Association announced in late 1998 that the 1999 Lilac Festival had been designated one of its Top 100 Events in North America. I am pleased that this recognition of the value RBG offers to the group tour and travel industry was complemented by acknowledgement of our scientific endeavours through receipt of the prestigious Excellence on the Waterfront Honour Award. With our other partners in the Hamilton Harbour Fish and

Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project, we were honoured to be the only Canadian recipients of this international award.

Planning and hard work are fostering growth at RBG after years of cutbacks. While government funding shrinks or flatlines, new marketing initiatives, new partnerships, and dramatically increased gate and membership revenues continue to push our self-generated funds higher. We now generate substantially more revenues ourselves - and that figure is increasing annually.

We will continue to enhance our collections and public programming to make RBG an even greater attraction 12 months of the year. Our ultimate plan is to undertake capital improvements that will provide the best possible experience for Royal Botanical Gardens visitors and clients. Our staff and consultants are working together to create a logical and imaginative design concept.

Ambitious plans require committed Board leadership, and our Board of Directors is embracing the future with enthusiasm.

In 1998, we had the pleasure of welcoming to the Board six new Directors whose expertise and experience will have a positive impact on the work of the Gardens. We welcome Jim Davies, Fred Eisenberger, Brian Henley, David Howell, Geoffrey Mann and Don Ross and hope they enjoy the important role they will play at RBG.

Also in 1998, we had to say goodbye. After years of dedicated service, Robert Seymour, Dr. Patricia Chow Fraser and Don Marr ended their tenures as Board members. We were disappointed to lose their valuable input, and we wish them well in future endeavours.

I would like to say a special thank you to Nancy Wallace, who retired in 1998 following 10



years as recording secretary to the Board. We give Nancy our best wishes for health and happiness in her retirement.

I am also pleased to note the honour given to RBC's Director Emeritus, Dr. Leslie Laking, who was inducted into Hamilton's Gallery of Distinction in 1998. His vision and commitment to excellence reflected in Royal Botanical Gardens have enriched not only the Greater Bay Area but all of Canada.

As we move into 1999, we are building on these accomplishments from the past with

energy and ambition. However, I can assure all our supporters that this progress must occur in a financially responsible manner. As we look toward an exciting future, I welcome your support in ensuring that tomorrow's citizens will enjoy an ever-greater Royal Botanical Gardens.

Michael Schwenger,
President

RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT

En terminant ma deuxième année de présidence des Jardins botaniques royaux, j'ai l'honneur d'indiquer que l'année 1998 fut exceptionnelle. Avec l'aide de la météo, nous avons obtenu des records de participation du public aux JBR. Je voudrais exprimer la gratitude du conseil au personnel et aux bénévoles dont le dévouement et la créativité aident les JBR à devenir l'une des attractions ontariennes les plus magnifiques et intéressantes.

Les JBR sont devenus un lieu à visiter absolument en Amérique du Nord. De fait, l'American Bus Association a annoncé fin 1998 que le Festival des lilas 1999 avait été nommé l'une de ses cent premières attractions. Cette reconnaissance de la valeur des JBR par l'industrie des voyages organisés s'est doublée de celle obtenue pour nos travaux scientifiques avec le prestigieux prix d'honneur Excellence on the Waterfront. Avec nos autres partenaires du Projet de restauration des habitats des poissons et de la faune dans le port de Hamilton, nous avons l'honneur d'être les seuls Canadiens à recevoir ce prix international.

La planification et nos efforts résultent en une bonne croissance des JBR après des années de réductions budgétaires. La participation des gouvernements s'amenuisant toujours, nos nouvelles initiatives en marketing et nos nouveaux partenariats, ainsi que la bonne croissance de nos entrées et abonnements, continuent d'augmenter nos revenus directs, qui sont en hausse d'une année à l'autre.

Nous continuerons d'améliorer nos collections et nos programmes afin de faire des JBR une attraction encore meilleure pendant les douze mois de l'année. Notre plan est d'augmenter notre investissement de capital en vue de procurer la meilleure expérience possible aux visiteurs et clients des Jardins botaniques royaux. Notre personnel et nos conseillers

travaillent de concert pour créer un concept logique et imaginatif.

Nos plans ambitieux nécessitent l'engagement de la direction du conseil d'administration, et ce conseil considère l'avenir avec enthousiasme.

En 1998, nous avons eu le plaisir d'accueillir six nouveaux directeurs, dont l'expertise et l'expérience auront un impact positif sur le travail des Jardins. Nous accueillons ainsi Jim Davies, Fred Eisenberger, Brian Henley, David Howell, Geoffrey Mann et Don Ross et espérons qu'ils apprécieront le rôle important qu'ils joueront aux JBR.

Également en 1998, nous avons dû voir partir, après des années de bons et loyaux services en tant que membres du conseil, Robert Seymour, Dr Patricia Chow Fraser et Don Marr. Nous sommes désolés de perdre leur contribution et nous leur souhaitons bonne chance pour l'avenir.

Je voudrais remercier spécialement Nancy Wallace qui a pris sa retraite en 1998, après dix ans en tant que secrétaire-rédactrice du conseil. Nous lui souhaitons santé et bonheur dans sa retraite.

J'ai également le plaisir de signaler l'honneur attribué au Dr Leslie Laking, directeur honoraire des JBR, qui a été inclus dans la Galerie de distinction de Hamilton en 1998. Sa vision et son engagement envers l'excellence démontrée aux JBR ont enrichi non seulement notre région mais aussi l'ensemble du Canada.

Lors de cette année 1999, nous bâtissons sur les succès du passé, avec énergie et ambition. Mais je désire assurer tous nos membres et amis que ce progrès doit se produire de façon responsable sur le plan financier. Face à un avenir exaltant, je vous remercie de votre soutien qui permettra de garantir que les citoyens de demain apprécieront encore davantage les Jardins botaniques royaux.

Michael Schwenger,
président du Conseil



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As we look towards a new millennium, Royal Botanical Gardens is benefiting from our society's growing interest in gardening and the environment. Our mission to foster public understanding and appreciation of the relationship between the plant world, humanity and the rest of nature is reaching new audiences eager to learn from our expertise and to experience the sensory richness of our gardens and natural lands.

In many ways 1998 saw a continuation of getting the message out about the wonders of RBG, and improving visitors' experience. Attendance reached new heights, and our membership grew to 8,500, which translates to almost 20,000 supporting individuals. We offered more than 200 public programs, and participation increased by over 40% from the preceding year.

Response to our young people's programs was particularly gratifying. As our mandate to generate knowledge and to disseminate that information begins with children, we place a priority on programs which engage imagination and scientific curiosity, leading to experiences that foster appreciation and respect for our natural world. In 1998 school group attendance increased by over 70%, and participation in our day camps grew by nearly 25%.

We also complemented our well-established festivals of bloom with new events that highlight our natural heritage. Both Celebrating Paradise and OctoBIRDfest gave visitors a chance to experience the dramatic results of Cootes Paradise restoration and to understand the science behind the rehabilitation.

We brought RBC's message to gardeners in the Greater Toronto Area through the Canada Blooms Flower and Garden Show, held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Our spectacular display, called Impressions of Spring, won the Gordon A. MacEachern Award for the best large garden at the show. Significantly, it represented an important horticultural milestone, as we succeeded in forcing lilacs into bloom in March for a brilliant showing. Invaluable support from our Auxiliary meant that our garden was always interpreted by enthusiasts eager to spread the word about RBG.

Among the improvements to our Gardens facilities in 1998 was a fascinating new entrance to the Lilac Dell, home to the world's largest documented lilac collection. Supported by the Evans family in tribute to former RBG Board member Kitsy Evans, The Lilac Story traces the history of lilacs from their wild origins to the most modern breeding trends, winding through plantings of significant species and cultivars which are interpreted in colourful informative panels.

The Lilac Story also provides a synopsis of the world renowned collection to visitors who are unable to manage the terrain of the Lilac Dell itself. Accessibility remains a challenge for RBG. In 1998 we addressed one aspect by introducing a double-decker shuttle bus which ran between garden areas from May to mid-October, and we are committed to enhancing visitors' ability to experience the richness and diversity of RBG holdings.

We also believe that all of this exciting activity must be accessible to the public 12 months of the year. With this in mind that we began reviewing RBG's 1992 Facilities Plan in order to address a number of issues: barrier-free access from RBG



Centre to the Rose Garden; expanded parking facilities; separation of traffic flow between public and private patrons; a controlled intersection at Plains Road West; efficient use of space to maximize revenue generating activities; and, above all, providing sufficient experiences for the public to visit RBG all year.

Addressing these challenges in a creative and cost-effective way will shape RBG's development over the next few years. It is gratifying to know that public demand for our services and expertise is driving this vision for the future.

Finally, readers of this Annual Report will find that the audited financial statements have a different look this year. Consistent with the newly adopted generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit corporations, the value of capital assets (excluding land and collections) is now reflected in our statements, giving a more complete picture of our holdings. In addition, our endowment and reserve funds are not reported separately, as in the past, but are incorporated within the statements. While

our operating budget remains extraordinarily lean in comparison to other botanical gardens or cultural institutions, members can see the good news of RBG's growing financial stability.

Royal Botanical Gardens is blessed with a wealth of land, collections, expertise, and commitment. Our challenge for the future is to ensure that these resources are made ever more meaningful to the people of Ontario and Canada. The results of the past year have reaffirmed our goal to make RBG an international destination for the collection, research, conservation, exhibition and interpretation of the plant world.

Sharilyn J. Ingram
Director

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Incorporated by Special Act of Legislature, Province of Ontario, 1941

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF

The Honourable Hilary M. Weston, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario

BOARD 1998

APPOINTED BY COUNCIL, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

Mayor John Addison
James Davies
Councillor Fred Eisenberger
Mark Rizzo
Don Ross
Brian Henley

APPOINTED BY COUNCIL, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

Mayor Robert S. MacIsaac
Councillor Kevin D. Flynn
Andrew Cawse

APPOINTED BY THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR- IN-COUNCIL, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Marnie Spears

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS IN PLACE OF APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL- IN-COUNCIL, CANADA

Andrew Nizielski

REPRESENTING McMASTER UNIVERSITY

Dr. Peter George, President

REPRESENTING RBG AUXILIARY

President
Betty Langille

RBG BOARD APPOINTMENTS 1998

Joseph M. Pigott
Michael Schwenger
Rick Lane
Earl Walker
Les Standen
Don Marr
Bill Bennett
Geoffery Mann
David Howell

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD FROM APRIL 9, 1998

President
Michael Schwenger
Vice President
Mayor Robert S. MacIsaac
Treasurer
Andrew Cawse
**Director and Secretary
of the Board**
Sharilyn J. Ingram
Recording Secretary
Carrie Brooks-Joiner
Auditors
Ernst & Young

AUXILIARY LIAISON MEMBER

First Vice President
Jan Stoddart

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Dr. Leslie Laking



“OctoBIRDFest and Celebrating Paradise were held at Cootes Paradise to highlight the beauty of the Gardens’ natural areas...”

IN TOUCH WITH OUR PUBLIC

■ General attendance was at an all-time high in 1998 with admission revenues increasing by 25% over 1997. Added profile via paid and unpaid media, good weather, growth of traditional festivals and the addition of two new shoulder season festivals contributed to the increase in attendance.

■ Public Programs continued to broaden, diversify and flourish with more than 200 programs being offered. More than 25% of the programs were held for the first time. Total participation increased by 41% over 1997. Other new developments included the production of a Public Program Instructor’s Handbook and a pilot seminar and professional development session was held for all instructors in the program. Instructors had an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas, brainstorm on potential new topics, and take part in a workshop on adult education principles and practices. Participant feedback also was launched and has provided instructors with valuable insights and ideas that are incorporated into future workshops and lectures.

■ In addition to the highly successful bloom season festivals, RBG tapped into consumer demand for eco-tourism events. In 1988, OctoBIRDFest and Celebrating Paradise were held at Cootes Paradise to highlight the beauty

of the Gardens’ natural areas, much of which has been restored by ongoing environmental rehabilitation projects.

■ The Nature Interpretive Centre continued to provide quality educational experiences to children, through formal education programs and day camps. Growth in youth participation continued to be significant with the formal education programs experiencing an increase of 73% and the day camp programs recording an increase of 23% over 1997.

■ The Discovery Cart program for 1998 was expanded beyond the peak outdoor season, with the introduction of an Extreme Plants theme. This cart explored the adaptations plants make to survive in “extreme” environments. It featured the winter extreme (Discovery Garden plants), the desert extreme (Mediterranean Garden plants) and the tropical extreme - when forced to cope with conditions found in our homes (Plantscape collection). Besides operating through the Christmas and March Break activities and at the Mediterranean Food and Wine Festival, this cart appeared at the Burlington Heritage Festival, the Hamilton Home Show and the Burlington Winter Carnival.



“President Michael Schwenger and donor Kitsy Evans, a long-time supporter and Board Member from 1963 to 1988, presided over the opening of a new entrance to Lilac Dell named The Lilac Story...”

■ The Discovery Carts headed back into the gardens in spring with the introduction of a new Plant Adaptations theme to be put on display in Hendrie Park between the peak rose

blooms. The theme was chosen after careful analysis of questionnaires that were returned by visitors during the 1997 season. This display focuses on competition as a driving force of plant adaptation.

■ Our new Regulatory Signs were completed and installed at all trailheads and secondary trail access points. The signs stressed proper etiquette while on our trails, to help enhance the enjoyment of other trail users, while maintaining the environmental integrity of our natural areas.



“Working within the overall show theme of Spring Dreams, our garden was awarded the Gordon A. MacEachern Award for the best large garden...”

OUR LIVING MUSEUM

■ On Sunday, May 3, President Michael Schwenger and Kitsy Evans, a long-time supporter and Board Member from 1963 to 1988, presided over the opening of a new entrance to Lilac Dell named The Lilac Story. This exhibit takes visitors on a walk through time and prepares them for the spectacle of the world’s largest lilac collection. Part of this entrance includes a winding path that traces the history of lilacs from their wild origins to the latest in breeding trends. The walkway passes through several alcoves, or “rooms”, each a chapter in the story of this popular shrub. The rooms are “furnished” with important lilacs that have contributed to the horticultural development of this species. They are described on colourful panels, which also interpret this globally significant collection long after the blooms and their fragrances have disappeared.

■ In March, RBG participated in Canada Blooms, by presenting a 2,500-square-foot

feature garden inspired by our world-renowned lilac collection. Working within the overall show theme of Spring Dreams, our garden received the Gordon A. MacEachern Award for the best large garden. This initiative provided RBG an opportunity to showcase its public offering to a captive Toronto-based audience.

■ Our world-class botanical collection and the renowned horticulturists and scientists who have enhanced and cared for the gardens were recognized on May 1, when Heritage Minister Sheila Copps unveiled a plaque designating Royal Botanical Gardens a National Historic Site.

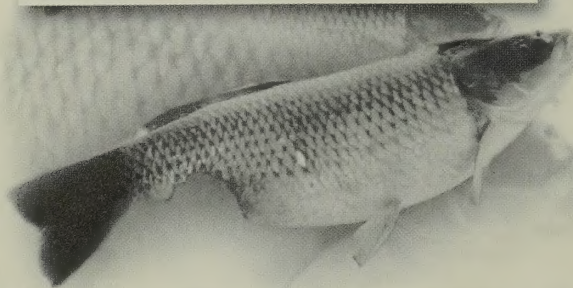
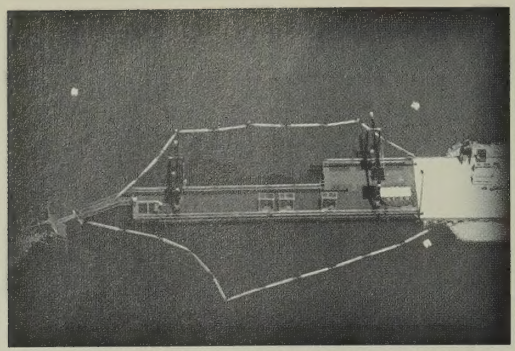
■ The International Lilac Society held its Annual Convention at RBG on May 28. The Society pledged \$4,000 to the Gardens to create a database to accommodate the international checklist for Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa*.

■ RBG Centre was the site of a wide variety of shows, meetings and conventions held by horticultural organizations, including:

- The Garden Clubs of Ontario’s triennial show
- The Canadian Iris Society’s annual show
- The Canadian Peony Society’s annual show
- The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society’s annual show
- The Ontario Regional Lily Society’s annual show
- The American Rhododendron Society members visit as part of their annual convention
- The Hamilton & District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society’s annual show



“Heritage Minister Sheila Copps unveiled a plaque designating Royal Botanical Gardens a National Historic Site...”



“...sorting also dramatically decreased the carp population in Cootes Paradise and contributed greatly to the regeneration of the marsh’s vegetation...”

UNDERSTANDING OUR WORLD

■ The Hamilton Harbour Fish and Wildlife Restoration Project, of which the Cootes Paradise restoration is a major component, received the international Waterfront Center’s prestigious Excellence on the Waterfront Honour Award. The Restoration Project was the only Canadian recipient of the award.

■ The Fishway successfully completed its second year of operation. Sorting of fish began on March 4 and ended November 18. RBC staff identified 39 species, which passed through the Fishway. The sorting also dramatically decreased the carp population in Cootes Paradise and contributed greatly to the regeneration of the marsh’s vegetation. Public tours of the facility also began in 1998.

■ RBC’s aggressive rehabilitation work in Cootes Paradise was put to the test in June, when we became a partner in the reintroduction of Trumpeter Swans to the marsh. Trumpeters once were rare in this area, but Project Paradise has regenerated the marsh’s ecosystem to the extent that it can host Canada’s largest native waterfowl.

■ The Canadian Botanical Conservation Network (CBCN) gained more prominence on the international stage when Coordinator David Galbraith attended the fifth Botanic Gardens International Congress in Cape Town, South

Africa. CBCN also was invited to participate in the development of a conservation strategy for botanical gardens, called the Global Conservation Agenda.

■ Also in 1998, Environment Canada entered into a three-year contract with RBC to support the activities of the CBCN.

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

■ In 1998, the Auxiliary continued its extraordinary financial support of RBC through a contribution of \$175,000, an amount that exceeded the Auxiliary’s original commitment by \$50,000.

■ The Auxiliary was instrumental in providing enjoyment for our visitors, acting as guides to riders on 200 tour buses throughout the year. They dealt with a record 110 buses in May and June alone. Additionally, the Auxiliary provided tour guides for all RBC festivals. Because of these efforts, \$9,700 was returned to the Auxiliary in tour guide fees.

■ RBC Auxiliary work in the area of horticulture expanded with the increasing popularity of the Plant Sale. Revenues from the annual event at the Arboretum surpassed all expectations and set a sales record. Auxiliary volunteers also completed their second year of assisting in the maintenance of our plant collections.



“A vintage double-decker bus was in service daily from May to October. Many of our visitors enjoyed the experience and the convenience...”



“RBG Auxiliary work in the area of horticulture expanded with the increasing popularity of the Plant Sale. Revenues from the annual event at the Arboretum surpassed all expectations and set a sales record...”

IMPROVING OUR SURROUNDINGS

■ Movement among garden areas was made more convenient with the introduction of a shuttle service. A vintage double-decker bus contracted through Greyhound Canada was in service daily from May to October. Many of our visitors enjoyed the experience and the convenience of leaving their car at one spot while visiting the Gardens.

■ As a result of the proposed addition of a public conservatory and other changes to RBG Centre, it was determined that an update of the 1992 Facilities Plan be undertaken. Baird Sampson Neuert Architects returned to produce the update with considerable input from staff and the Properties Committee. With the realization that Plains Road West will not be realigned, alternatives to the 1992 plan were investigated. The updated plan focuses on the RBG Centre and Hendrie Park sites for long-term development. In regard to RBG Centre, the plan addresses effective use of space; clear separation of public and private traffic flow; 12-month attractions (an architecturally significant conservatory); provision of barrier-free access from RBG Centre to the Rose Garden; expanded parking; and a signalized intersection at Plains Road West.

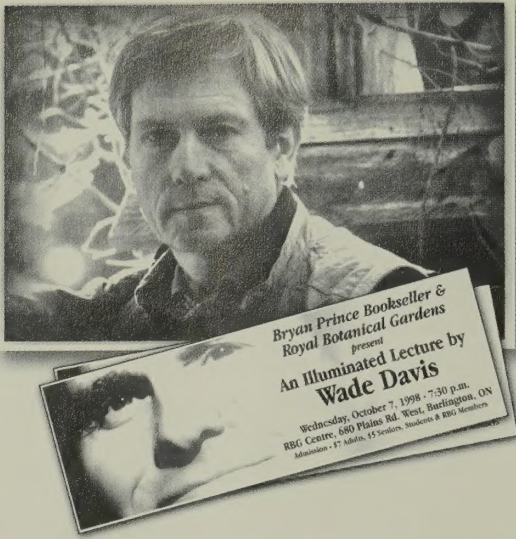
■ Public accessibility was enhanced when new directional signage was erected on some surrounding highways, as part of the Province’s new Tourism-Oriented Directional Signing program.

■ RBG staff stayed in touch with the community through a series of meetings to help ensure that we work positively with neighbouring residents and provide on-going communication about Gardens’ activities. RBG also is developing policies to deal with encroachment onto our properties.

■ Upkeep and maintenance of RBG’s holdings is ongoing, and a number of projects were completed in 1998. These projects included the re-roofing of the 1978 portion of RBG Centre, remedial work on Fountain Court, a complete restoration of the Scented Garden Fountain, the repair of the Rock Garden Pools.



“Through tremendous efforts of the staff at RBG and our food service operators, the facilities continue to be a popular location for private functions...”



“...partnerships between RBG and local, independent bookstores produced a highly successful speakers series...”

EXPANDING OUR BUSINESS

■ During 1998, memberships reached the record level of 8,500. New options and benefits have been created for all members categories. In addition to making available two-year memberships, for the first time RBG is offering a special package of benefits to supporters who give beyond the basic membership fees. A new Corporate Membership program is tailored to fit the needs of any business, from a self-employed entrepreneur to a publicly traded corporation.

■ Through tremendous efforts of the staff at RBG and our food service operators, the facilities continue to be a popular location for private functions. Compton and Greenland was awarded an exclusive contract to provide food services for all restaurants and catering needs. The Gardens' Café continues to do extremely well under Compton and Greenland.

■ Partnerships have been developed to increase the facility's use and exposure during the shoulder season. The Ontario Garden Show, in April, is a partnership between RBG and the Show Division of Town Publishing that attracts thousands of visitors. It offers good exposure and provides a great opportunity for membership development.

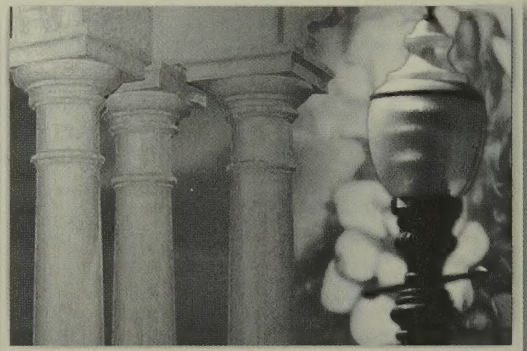
■ Additionally, partnerships between RBG and local, independent bookstores produced a highly successful speakers series, featuring ethnobotanist Wade Davis, artist Robert Bateman and photographer Freeman Patterson.

■ Thanks in part to a significant donation of \$400,000 from one individual, who wishes to remain anonymous, gifts from individuals increased to \$566,000 in 1998, from \$151,000 in 1997. Revenue from bequests increased significantly to \$623,000 in 1998, from \$420,000 in 1997.

■ Magnolia Night raised more than \$90,000 for RBG in 1998. The April fundraising event, with its champagne reception, delicious southern cuisine, lively music, and entertaining live and silent auctions, has become a popular tradition at the Gardens.

■ The importance of corporate sponsorship was highlighted on October 8, when RBG hosted its 10th-annual Corporate Breakfast. The event, sponsored by Merrill Lynch Canada - Hamilton Office, was attended by more than 250 people from the business community in the Golden Horseshoe area. Proceeds were directed to the Christmas and March Break children's camps.

■ A record number of guests also attended 1998's Botanical Buffet, An Evening in Provence. The event combines an evening of fine dining, highlighting a specific regional cuisine, with informative and entertaining lectures on the region's vegetation. Total revenue exceeded \$30,000, including in-kind donations.



“Magnolia Night... has become a popular tradition at the Gardens.”

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

December 31, 1998

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Royal Botanical Gardens

We have audited the statement of financial position of **Royal Botanical Gardens** as at December 31, 1998 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 1998 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Hamilton, Canada,
March 18, 1999.

Ernst & Young LLP

Chartered Accountants

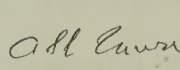
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

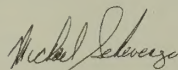
As at December 31

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
ASSETS		
Cash	159,162	57,286
Invested with The Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth [note 11]	3,088,349	2,871,353
Investments - at cost [note 4]	571,593	716,532
Accounts receivable	706,218	134,260
Prepaid expenses	53,353	49,698
Goods and services taxes recoverable	40,693	54,649
Other assets	300,000	-
Total current assets	4,919,368	3,883,778
Endowment investments - at cost [notes 4 and 9]	5,331,487	4,226,050
Capital assets, net [note 5]	12,916,911	13,093,421
	23,167,766	21,203,249
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable	464,979	567,586
Deferred contributions [note 6]	703,336	420,230
Total current liabilities	1,168,315	987,816
Deferred capital contributions [note 6]	14,783,015	14,345,530
Net Assets [statement]		
Unrestricted	(694)	(62,852)
Investment in capital assets [note 8]	97,059	74,820
Endowments [note 9]	5,331,487	4,226,050
Board restricted [note 10]	1,788,584	1,631,885
Total net assets	7,216,436	5,869,903
	23,167,766	21,203,249

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:


Director


Director

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year ended December 31

	Unrestricted \$	Investment in capital assets \$
		<i>[note 8]</i>
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	(62,852)	74,820
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year	220,607	(41,473)
Change in investment in capital assets	(63,712)	63,712
Endowment contributions	-	-
Transfers - Project Paradise	90,158	-
Other transfers - net	(184,895)	-
Net assets(deficit), end of year	(694)	97,059

See accompanying notes

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
REVENUE		
Grants		
Province of Ontario - Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation	1,617,800	1,617,800
Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth	814,630	814,630
Regional Municipality of Halton	346,200	346,200
	2,778,630	2,778,630
Amortization of deferred capital contributions [note 6[b]]	703,043	602,135
Investment income	602,358	669,336
Admissions	421,634	332,757
Donation from RBG Auxiliary [note 12]	161,245	123,989
Membership fees and donations [note 7]	714,260	757,904
User fees and other income [note 7]	1,392,170	1,175,769
	6,773,340	6,440,520
EXPENSES		
Operations and maintenance		
Gardens, parklands, and sanctuaries	1,759,768	1,736,419
Buildings and equipment	1,226,133	1,178,758
Amortization of capital assets [note 8]	744,516	634,015
	3,730,417	3,549,192
Scientific and research program	520,864	585,882
Educational program	255,090	349,045
Administration	707,532	618,730
Development and membership	291,201	269,060
Other programs and projects	299,424	358,434
Marketing, admissions and sales	711,645	548,184
Investment management fees	78,033	33,659
	6,594,206	6,312,186
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	179,134	128,334

See accompanying notes

1998			1997
Endowments \$	Board restricted \$	Total \$	Total \$
<i>[note 9]</i>			<i>[restated-note 2]</i>
4,226,050	1,631,885	5,869,903	5,439,216
-	-	179,134	128,334
-	-	-	-
1,167,399	-	1,167,399	302,353
(90,158)	-	-	-
28,196	156,699	-	-
5,331,487	1,788,584	7,216,436	5,869,903

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year ended December 31

	1998 \$	1997 \$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses	179,134	128,334
Add (deduct) non-cash items		
Amortization of capital assets	744,516	634,015
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(703,043)	(602,135)
Deferred contributions recognized as revenue	(240,152)	(646,989)
	(19,545)	(486,775)
Net changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	(964,264)	285,079
Cash used in operating activities	(983,809)	(201,696)
INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	(568,006)	(954,575)
Contributions restricted for capital asset purchases and interest	1,140,528	603,520
Deferred contributions and interest	523,258	534,024
Endowment transfers - net	61,962	49,499
Cash provided by investing and financing activities	1,157,742	232,468
Increase in cash	173,933	30,772
Cash, beginning of year	3,645,171	3,614,399
Cash, end of year	3,819,104	3,645,171
Cash is comprised of		
Cash	159,162	57,286
Invested with The Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth	3,088,349	2,871,353
Investments	571,593	716,532
	3,819,104	3,645,171

See accompanying notes

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1998

1. DESCRIPTION

Royal Botanical Gardens [the "RBG"] is one of Canada's premier cultural, educational and scientific institutions, comprised of more than 1,100 hectares of horticultural display gardens, arboretum, woodlands, wetlands and 30 kilometers of trails. RBG is an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation and receives additional support from the Regional Municipalities of Hamilton-Wentworth and Halton, the RBG members, the RBG Auxiliary, many corporations, foundations and individuals.

The Auxiliary of the Royal Botanical Gardens [the "Auxiliary"] is incorporated under the laws of Ontario as a separate corporation without share capital and was established to promote the objects and interests of the RBG through volunteer service. The activities of the Auxiliary are undertaken with the approval of the Board of Directors of the RBG and any profits are to be used by the RBG. The accounts of the Auxiliary are not consolidated in these financial statements.

The RBG has an economic beneficial interest in a Crown-controlled foundation, the Royal Botanical Gardens Crown Foundation [the "Crown Foundation"], which is not consolidated in these financial statements. The principal objects of the Crown Foundation are to solicit, receive and distribute money and other property to support the mission and activities of the RBG.

The RBG is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act (Canada) and as such is exempt from income taxes.

2. ADOPTION OF NEW ACCOUNTING POLICIES

During 1998, RBG changed its method of accounting for capital assets to adopt the deferral method of accounting as promulgated by The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. The statements of financial position, operations and changes in net assets replace the balance sheet, statement of revenue, expenditures and balance of funds, which were previously issued on a fund basis. The information previously reported on the balance sheet and the statement of revenue and expenses for 1997 has been restated to conform to the new requirements.

The principal nature of the restatement for the RBG was to record amortization of the capital assets and to record the unamortized balance of contributions received specifically for capital asset purchases as deferred capital contributions. Previously, the RBG recorded capital contributions and capital expenditures as revenue and expenses of the capital fund. As a result, at December 31, 1997, deferred capital contributions and the net book value of capital assets were recorded in the amounts of \$14,345,530 and \$13,093,421, respectively.

The cumulative effect on the net assets at December 31, 1997 is as follows:

	\$
Combined net assets, previously stated	7,549,867
Net change in deferred operating contributions	(366,402)
Net change in deferred capital contributions used for capital asset purchases	(14,345,530)
Net change in capital assets	13,093,421
Net change in accounts payable	(61,453)
Net assets, restated	5,869,903

In accordance with the new requirements, certain accounts payable and reserve balances have been restated to reflect their true nature.

As a result of applying the new requirements, the excess of revenue over expenses of \$1,027 reported in the December 31, 1997 financial statements was changed to \$128,334.

This was primarily a result of a related change in the method of reporting investment income, the amortization of capital assets and contributions and the appropriations to board restricted funds.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies followed by the RBG have been summarized to facilitate review of the financial statements.

Revenue recognition

- [i] Grants are recorded as revenue when the related expenses have been made and the applications for the grants have been approved by the relevant government agencies. Grants, which have been received in advance of incurring the related expenses, are included in the statement of financial position as deferred contributions.
- [ii] Unrestricted donations are recognized as revenue in the year in which they are received. Restricted donations are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.
- [iii] Externally restricted contributions for depreciable assets are deferred and amortized over the life of the related capital assets. Externally restricted contributions for land are recorded as a direct increase in net assets invested in capital assets. Externally restricted capital asset contributions that have not been expended are recorded as part of deferred capital contributions in the statement of financial position.
- [iv] Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in endowment net assets in the year in which they are received.

Donations in kind

Donations in kind of \$146,779 [1997 - \$92,397] are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation and are included in "membership fees and donations" and "other income" in the statement of operations.

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost, except for donated assets, which are recorded at fair market value at the date of contribution. The fair market value of donated lands at the date of contribution cannot be determined and therefore the total 1,100 hectares of land has been recorded at a nominal value of \$1.

Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over the capital assets' estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	.40 years
Mechanical Equipment	.20 years
Gardens and Natural Area Infrastructures	.20 years
Roadways and Parking Lots	.20 years
Vehicles and Equipment	.5 - 10 years
Furniture and Fixtures	.10 years
Computer Equipment	.3 years

4. INVESTMENTS AND RESTRICTED INVESTMENTS

The total market value of investments and restricted investments at December 31, 1998 is \$6,886,235 [\$5,855,552 in 1997].

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets consist of the following:

	1998		
	Cost	Accumulated	Net book
	\$	amortization	value
		\$	\$
Land [note 1]	1	-	1
Buildings	13,215,946	4,123,194	9,092,752
Mechanical Equipment	1,169,203	265,501	903,702
Gardens and Natural Areas Infrastructures	1,587,077	275,962	1,311,115
Roadways and Parking Lots	1,390,668	337,805	1,052,863
Vehicles and Equipment	237,804	126,038	111,766
Furniture and Fixtures	363,967	265,064	98,903
Computer Equipment	623,053	277,244	345,809
	18,587,719	5,670,808	12,916,911

	1997		
	Cost	Accumulated	Net book
	\$	amortization	value
		\$	\$
		[restated - note 2]	
Land [note 1]	1	-	1
Buildings	13,198,673	3,801,215	9,397,458
Mechanical Equipment	949,080	210,527	738,553
Gardens and Natural Area Infrastructures	1,520,859	199,920	1,320,939
Roadways and Parking Lots	1,390,668	268,272	1,122,396
Vehicles and Equipment	159,387	84,567	74,820
Furniture and Fixtures	334,364	226,769	107,595
Computer Equipment	466,681	135,022	331,659
	18,019,713	4,926,292	13,093,421

The decrease/increase in net book value of capital assets is due to the following:

	1998	1997
	\$	\$
	[restated - note 2]	
Balance, beginning of year	13,093,421	12,772,861
Purchase of capital assets funded by deferred capital contributions	504,294	911,178
Purchase of capital assets internally funded	63,712	43,397
Amortization of capital assets	(744,516)	(634,015)
Balance, end of year	12,916,911	13,093,421

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

[a] Deferred operating contributions

	1998	1997
	\$	\$
	<i>[restated - note 2]</i>	
Balance, beginning of year	420,230	533,195
Amount recognized as revenue during the year	(240,152)	(646,989)
Amount received related to subsequent year	476,319	475,485
Investment income	46,939	58,539
Balance, end of year	703,336	420,230

[b] Deferred capital contributions

	1998	1997
	\$	\$
	<i>[restated - note 2]</i>	
Balance, beginning of year	14,345,530	14,344,145
Amortization of deferred capital contributions to revenue	(703,043)	(602,135)
Contributions received for capital purposes	1,068,489	498,478
Investment income on deferred capital contributions	72,039	105,042
Balance, end of year	14,783,015	14,345,530
Represented by:		
Deferred capital contributions	12,819,852	13,081,601
Unspent capital contributions	1,963,163	1,326,929
	14,783,015	14,345,530

7. REVENUE

	1998	1997
	\$	\$
	<i>[restated - note 2]</i>	
Membership fees and donations		
Membership fees	334,265	307,939
Donations	379,995	449,965
	714,260	757,904
User fees and other income		
Facility rentals and catering	332,775	301,716
Education	179,390	125,234
Other including youth employment projects	880,005	748,819
	1,392,170	1,175,769

8. INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS

The investment in capital assets consists of the following:

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
Capital assets [net]	12,916,911	13,093,421
Amounts financed by deferred capital contributions [note 6]	(12,819,852)	(13,018,601)
Balance, end of year	97,059	74,820

The change in investment in capital assets is calculated as follows:

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
Excess of expenses over revenues		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	703,043	602,135
Amortization of capital assets	(744,516)	(634,015)
	(41,473)	(31,880)
Net change in investment in capital assets		
Purchase of capital assets internally financed	568,006	954,575
Amounts funded by deferred contributions	(504,294)	(911,178)
	63,712	43,397

9. ENDOWMENTS

Contributions restricted for endowments consist of donations received by the RBG where the endowment principal is required to remain intact. Accordingly, these amounts are classified as long-term investments.

The investment income generated from the endowments must be used in accordance with the various purposes established by donors. Management ensures, as part of its fiduciary responsibilities, that all funds received with a restricted purpose are expended for the purpose for which they were provided.

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
General Endowment	2,179,513	1,794,207
Project Paradise Endowment [see below]	1,452,196	1,204,836
Palmer Memorial Trust	289,321	286,457
Woodland Garden Fund	140,463	138,647
Katie Osborne Lilac Garden Fund	95,776	94,828
Barbara Laking Memorial	110,853	109,120
Broman Land Trust	65,243	64,597
Beth Parker Orchid Fund	32,693	17,607
A. Parker Orchid Lab Fund	13,197	14,762
Anne Elizabeth Powell Memorial	400,000	-
Albert Nind Scholarship Fund	23,127	22,898
Dunnington Grubb Fund	324,316	297,817
Rock Chapel	191,769	176,100
J. Douglas Watson Memorial	9,757	1,627
Cathie Korhonen	3,263	2,547
	5,331,487	4,226,050

Project Paradise

The restoration of Cootes Paradise as part of the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration project in Cootes Paradise and Grindstone Creek and the Hamilton Remedial Action Plan is still in process.

The fund has been established as an Endowment to use the investment income for the ongoing support of the project. Efforts will be made to increase this fund during 1999.

10. NET ASSETS SUBJECT TO BOARD RESTRICTIONS

Net assets subject to Board restrictions represent amounts received by the RBG that have been restricted for specific purposes by the Board of Directors. Generally, the Board of Directors will restrict bequests, donations, and interest earned on these monies.

As at December 31, 1998, the Board of Directors restricted \$1,788,584 [1997 - \$1,631,855] of the unrestricted net assets to be held for special purposes. These restricted amounts are not available for other purposes without approval of the Board of Directors.

Board restricted funds at December 31 consist of the following:

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
Capital reserves	993,884	886,138
Organizational reserves	751,111	706,097
Biodiversity	43,589	39,650
	1,788,584	1,631,885

Organizational reserves

These include reserves for items such as short-term disability, claim fluctuations, replacement of vehicles and machinery.

Biodiversity

To further the biodiversity efforts of RBG, the Board of Directors resolved to be a leader in the formation of the Canadian Botanical Conservation Network ["CBCN"]. The goal of the CBCN is to aid Canadian botanical gardens and arboreta in realizing their potential to contribute to the conservation of biological diversity. The CBCN is a national program with the long-term goal of making a significant contribution to the survival of many of Canada's endangered plants.

11. INVESTED WITH THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

This account balance represents cash and investments held on behalf of the RBG and is payable on demand. Interest is paid on this account based on the rate of return that the Region earns on its investments.

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The accounts of the Auxiliary are presented separately and are not consolidated in these financial statements. Due to the nature of the operations, all of the net assets of the Auxiliary represent unrestricted funds. As at December 31, the balance of unrestricted funds of the Auxiliary was \$448,980 [\$372,821 in 1997].

During the year ended December 31, the Auxiliary contributed the following amounts to the RBG for the indicated purposes:

	1998 \$	1997 \$
		<i>[restated - note 2]</i>
Operations		
Received in the year	145,000	107,619
Deferred contributions recognized in the year	16,245	16,370
	161,245	123,989
Capital contributions - unspent	15,000	-
	176,245	123,989

In addition, the RBG provides facilities to the Auxiliary at no cost.

13. THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS CROWN FOUNDATION

As at December 31, 1998, the Crown Foundation had \$860 in assets. During the 1998 year, no distributions were made from the Crown Foundation to the RBG [\$70,000 in 1997].

14. LIABILITY - ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE PLAN

Under a previous sick leave benefit plan, certain employees may become entitled to a cash payment in lieu of sick leave days when they leave the Royal Botanical Gardens' employment. This plan has been replaced by long-term disability plans for service commencing in 1978.

The liability for these accumulated days, to the extent that they have vested and could be taken in cash by an employee upon terminating, has been provided for at the end of the 1998 year in the amount of \$123,618 [1997- \$115,205]. Interest is allowed to accumulate since the vested amount is based on the rate of pay of the individual terminating.

15. UNCERTAINTY DUE TO THE YEAR 2000 ISSUE

The Year 2000 issue arises because many computerized systems use two digits rather than four to identify a year. Date-sensitive systems may recognize the year 2000 as 1900 or some other date, resulting in errors when information using year 2000 dates is processed. In addition, similar problems may arise in some systems, which use certain dates in 1999 to represent something other than a date. The effects of the Year 2000 issue may be experienced before, on, or after January 1, 2000, and, if not addressed, the impact on operations and financial reporting may range from minor errors to significant systems failure, which could affect the organization's ability to conduct normal business operations. While the RBG has initiated a program intended to ensure its computer systems will be ready for the year 2000 in advance of January 1, 2000, it is not possible to be certain that all aspects of the Year 2000 issue affecting the RBG, including those related to the efforts of suppliers, or other third parties, will be fully resolved.

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Aurora Garden &
Horticultural Society
The Bayfield Garden Club
Beach Garden & Horticultural Society
Brampton Horticultural Society
Brantford Garden Club
Bronte Horticultural Society
Bruce Trail Association
Burlington Horticultural Society
Canadian Gladiolus Society
Canadian Iris Society
City of Toronto,
Parks & Recreation Department
Cloverleaf Garden Club
Cobourg Horticultural Society
Community Residential Care Homes
Concordia Club
Corktown Cooperative Homes Inc.
Credit Valley Horticultural Society
Flamborough Horticultural Society
Flowers Canada
Garden Club Of Ancaster
Garden Club Of Burlington
Garden Club Of Cambridge
Garden Club Of Dundas
The Garden Club of Hamilton
Garden Club Of Kitchener-Waterloo
Garden Club Of London
Garden Club of Toronto
Garden Clubs Of Ontario
Georgetown District
Horticultural Society
The Georgian Bay Garden Club
Glen Morris Horticultural Society
The Greater Rochester Perennial &
Master Gardeners
Grimsby Garden Club
Guelph Horticultural Society
Guelph Services for the
Physically Disabled
Haldimand Horticultural Society
The Hamilton & District
Chrysanthemum & Dahlia Society
Hamilton Automobile Club
Hamilton Burlington Rose Society

Hilltop Garden Club
Horticulture Centre Of The Pacific
HSC Activity Centre
Humber College - Arboretum
Ikenobo Ikebana Society of Hamilton
International Lilac Society
Kitchener-Waterloo
Habilitation Services
Lakefield & District
Horticultural Society
Lambeth Horticultural Society
Landscape Ontario
Listowel & District
Horticultural Society
London Horticultural Society
Lynden Horticultural Society
Manotick Horticultural Society
Markham Garden Society
Milne House Garden Club
Milton & District
Horticultural Society
Mohawk College, Creative Arts
Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society
Niagara Parks Botanical Garden
Oakville Horticultural Society
Ontario Horticultural Association
Ontario Hosta Society
Ontario Regional Lily Society
Orangeville & District
Horticultural Society
Oshawa Garden Club
Outdoor Art & Science School
Paris Horticultural Society
Perth & District Horticultural Society
Pickering Horticultural Society
Port Colborne Horticultural Society
Prince of Wales School
Rhododendron Society Of Canada
Ridgeway & District Garden Club
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Shalom Village
Sheridan College
Simcoe & District
Horticultural Society
Sisters of St. Joseph of Hamilton
Sisters of St. Joseph's Villa
St. Elizabeth Ladies Club
St. George Garden Club
St. Joseph's Villa
Stratford & District
Horticultural Society
Thorold Horticultural Society
Trafalgar Senior Homes Limited
W.E.C. International
Waterloo Horticultural Society
Welcome Inn Community Centre
Winona Horticultural Society

We wish to thank all of RBC's supporters whose generous contributions make possible the on-going operation of this national treasure. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list, and we apologize for any errors or omissions.

A - Auxiliary Member	(PP) - Project Paradise Supporter	+ - Deceased	* Founding Member
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Ongoing Research Projects

Royal Botanical Gardens Botany Program

- **MORUS RUBRA (RED MULBERRY) CONSERVATION BIOLOGY & ECOLOGY**
 - investigating pertinent aspects of the biology, taxonomy and ecology of this nationally threatened species as part of the recovery team for the species

Research partners: University of Guelph Botany Department, the Metro Toronto Zoo and the Ministry of Natural Resources
- **LYTHRUM SALICARIA (PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE) BIOCONTROL**
 - investigating the efficacy of introduced beetles (*Galerucella* spp.) as biological controls of the exotic invasive *Lythrum salicaria*, as well as monitoring non-target feeding of the beetles

Research partners: University of Guelph Environmental Biology Department
- **LYTHRUM SALICARIA COMMUNITY ECOLOGY**
 - investigating the role of *Lythrum salicaria* in wetland plant communities, and potential for eradication with a directed planting program

Research partners: McGill University
- **LYTHRUM SALICARIA BIOLOGY**
 - investigating water tolerance & mycorrhizal associations of *Lythrum salicaria* and other wetland plants

Research partners: University of Guelph Botany Department
- **ALTERNATIVE TURF TRIALS**
 - examining the potential of native graminoids (*Juncus tenuis*, *Carex pensylvanica*) as alternatives to exotic turf grass species and/or erosion control in disturbed habitats

Research partners: McMaster University Biology Department
- **ALLIARIA PETIOLATA ECOLOGY**
 - quantifying the competitive effect of *Alliaria petiolata* (Garlic Mustard) on native wildflowers

Research partners: McMaster University Biology Department
- **RESTORATION PLANTING TECHNIQUES**
 - investigating restoration planting techniques that may help reduce detrimental impacts of historic eutrophication in the Grindstone watershed

Research partners: McMaster University Biology Department
- **SEDIMENT EVALUATION**
 - greenhouse experiments to evaluate the ability of polluted sediments from Cootes Paradise to support aquatic and emergent plant growth

Research partners: McMaster University Biology Department
- **WETLAND PLANT WATER-DEPTH TRIALS**
 - greenhouse experiments to assess the depth tolerance of a selection of wetland plants at different stages in their life-cycle

Research partners: McMaster University Biology Department
- **INVASIVE PLANT MONITORING**
 - ongoing field surveys designed to assess the spread of invasive species in the nature sanctuaries and provide necessary information for control and eradication of those species
- **NATURE SANCTUARY PLANT CHECKLIST**
 - updating plant records to locate and document rare and significant plant species persisting on RBG property, identify those that have been extirpated, and design appropriate management strategies
 - study results are shared with the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority and the Natural Heritage Information Centre as part of regional and provincial conservation monitoring programs
- **WETLAND PLANTING PROGRAM**
 - ongoing community effort to re-vegetate the marsh using nursery stock
 - this seasons plantings will be designed with regard to past successes and failures of the program

Research partners: Bay Area Restoration Council, Canadian Centre For Inland Waters
- **WETLAND MONITORING PROGRAM**
 - tracking changes in the emergent and submergent vegetation communities of Cootes Paradise and Grindstone creek to assess the success of restoration efforts to date, and provide necessary information for future management actions

Research partners: Bay Area Restoration Council, McMaster University, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canadian Centre for Inland Waters, Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan, Ecoaction 2000

■ LONG-TERM FOREST ECOLOGY STUDIES

- ecological surveying of mature forest stands as part of an international initiative to track changes in forest communities resulting from global climate change and increasing anthropogenic disturbances using the Smithsonian Institute/Man And Biosphere monitoring protocols

Research partners: ACER, Niagara Escarpment Commission, Hamilton Naturalist Club

■ WETLAND PHENOLOGY AND SUCCESSION

- intensive plant surveys focussed on documenting the little studied phenomena of succession within submergent plant communities, and the phenology of wetland plant communities as a whole

■ ONTARIO TREE ATLAS SURVEY

- collecting information on the distribution of trees in the Hamilton-Wentworth region for inclusion in the forthcoming Ontario Tree Atlas, currently being compiled by the University of Guelph Arboretum

Ongoing Research Projects

Royal Botanical Gardens Botanical Conservation Office

■ POTENTIAL IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON ENDANGERED PLANTS

- review of the factors affecting distribution of model rare and endangered native plants in Canada and assessment of the probable effects of changes in precipitation, evaporation and temperature regimes under anticipated models of global climate change on their survival

Research partners: Courtney Page & Susan A. Dudley, Department of Biology, McMaster University

■ SEED GENE BANKS FOR ENDANGERED PLANTS

- pilot project to develop expertise in conservation of genetic diversity of rare and endangered native plants in Canada through use of seed gene banks integrated with on-site conservation programs

■ CONSERVATION GENETICS OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

- application of concepts and methodologies of population and molecular genetics to endangered species recovery programs, including assessment of genetic diversity of native populations of *Stylophorum diphyllum* (Wood Poppy), and review of the use of genetics in a wide variety of taxa

Research partners: Bradley N. White, Department of Biology, McMaster University

■ LANDSCAPE GENETICS

- development of the conceptual framework necessary to relate genetic variation at the population level with landscape-ecology scale features of the biotic and abiotic environments, with emphasis on the role of genetic diversity in the survival and recovery of threatened species

■ PLANT COLLECTIONS AND THE BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION

- assessment of the impacts of the provisions of the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity on the management of collections of living and preserved plant specimens, with particular emphasis on the role of genetic resources in the generation of benefits that can be shared with developing countries

Research partners: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, UK Department of International Development and 12 other botanical gardens around the world

■ ECOLOGY OF MATING SYSTEMS IN REPTILES

- studies of mating systems and courtship behaviours in snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*), wood turtles (*Clemmys insculpta*) and garter snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*)



Ongoing Research Projects

Royal Botanical Gardens by Extramural Researchers

- **EVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGY OF CARBON ACQUISITION TRAITS IN PLANTS**
 - natural selection, quantitative genetics, and phenotypic plasticity of adaptations to drought stress and competition.

Researcher: Susan A. Dudley, Department of Biology, McMaster University
- **PHENOTYPIC PLASTICITY OF CARBON ACQUISITION & COMPETITION IN PLANTS**
 - stem elongation response will be used with other morphological and physiological characters that determine carbon acquisition in *Impatiens capensis* in competition with two congeners, *I. pallida*, a native species, and *I. glandulifera*, an invasive, exotic species.

Researcher: Susan A. Dudley, Department of Biology, McMaster University
- **FUNCTIONAL ECOLOGY OF PLANT COMPETITION**
 - assessing the differences between open and woodland populations of *Impatiens capensis* in morphological responses to simulated foliage shade

Researcher: Susan A. Dudley, Department of Biology, McMaster University
- **OLD-GROWTH CLIFF-FACE ECOLOGY**
 - documenting the extent of old-growth *Thuja occidentalis* on cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment.

Researcher: Douglas W. Larson, Department of Botany, University of Guelph
- **Ecology of talus slopes of the Niagara Escarpment**
 - study of the spacial heterogeneity of environmental variables and plant community distributions on talus slopes of the Niagara Escarpment

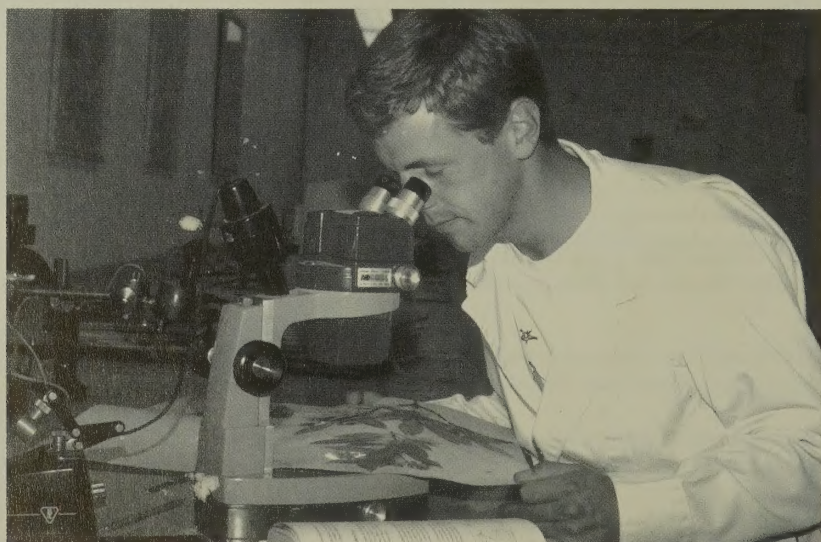
Researcher: Douglas W. Larson, Department of Botany, University of Guelph
- **ARCHAEOLOGY OF COOTES PARADISE**
 - investigation of the prehistoric habitation of this important wetland by people of the Princess Point Complex (AD 500-900), among the first societies to introduce agriculture to southern Ontario, and were possibly ancestral to later Iroquoian societies

Researcher: David G. Smith Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto at Mississauga
- **THE ROLE OF CATTAILS IN THE REHABILITATION OF COOTES PARADISE MARSH**
 - study of three species of cattails in the marsh in order to better understand their role in the ecosystem and to help guide marsh restoration plans.

Researchers: Monica M. Kuehn & Bradley N. White, Department of Biology, McMaster University
- **EFFECT OF A WATER GRADIENT ON THE VESICULAR-ARBUSCULAR MYCORRHIZAL STATUS OF LYTHRUM SALICARIA L.**
 - assessment of the growth of Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria* (Lythraceae)) under growth room and field conditions to study facultative mycorrhizal associations with six *Glomus* species

Researchers: Kevin J Stevens & R. Larry Peterson, Department of Botany, University of Guelph
- **WATER QUALITY STUDIES OF COOTES PARADISE**
 - studies of the physical and nutrient characteristics of the three main tributaries of Cootes Paradise, including loading of inorganic sediments and a series of phosphorus release experiments in the laboratory

Researcher: Patricia Chow-Fraser, Department of Biology, McMaster University



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 (from December, 1998))

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 Wayne Staley*
 Barry MacDonald
 Ann Marie Plunkett

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 Alfie Kiernicki
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W. Garfield Weston Field Wildlife Biologist
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 Lyall Rudderham
Lilac Registrar/Research Associate *(volunteer)*
 Freek Vrugtman
GIS Co-ordinator
 Zoe Green
GIS Assistant
 Andrew Boan

STAFFING PROGRAM PLACEMENTS: Royal Botanical Gardens gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the following agencies that provided funding for over 60 seasonal positions: Summer Experience Program - Ministry of Citizenship, Culture & Recreation, Summer Jobs Service - Ministry of Education and Training, Youth Internship Program - Cultural Human Resources Council, Summer Career Placement Program - Human Resources Development Canada, Youth Experience Program - Human Resources Development Canada, Targeted Wage Subsidy Program - Human Resources Development Canada and Young Canada Works - Department of Canadian Heritage.

PUBLISHING AND PUBLICATIONS

Axon, B., R. Edmondson, D. Featherstone, D. Gale, Z. Green, G. Logue, J. Hall, K. McIlwrick, J. Rzakdi, & G. Switzer.

■ *Grindstone Creek Watershed Study*. Halton Region Conservation Authority. 7 vols.

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■ *Growers' six pack: Explorer roses*. Landscape Trades 20(2):52-53.

■ *The quest for roots*. The Canadian Rose Annual 1998:72-77.

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■ Book review. *Michigan Flora: A Guide to the Identification and Occurrence of the Native and Naturalized Seed-Plants of the State. Part III: Dicots (Pyrolaceae-Compositae)*. [By] Edward G. Voss. The Ohio Journal of Science 97:116-117.

■ *Wildflowers of Scalbard*. Wildflower 14(4):38-41.

■ *Clematis subgenus Viorna*. The Clematis 1998:24-36, 38-49.

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■ *Measuring the return of Paradise: Cootes Paradise, Hamilton Harbour Area of Concern*. In: Sharing Experiences in Habitat Restoration II: Proceedings of the Second Workshop. pp. 22-23.

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■ From the registrar's desk: *The Rankin lilacs reviewed*. Lilacs 27:19-28.

■ From the registrar's desk: *Merle L. Keaffaber and his lilac Syringa vulgaris L. 'Merlann'*. Lilacs 27:29.

■ From the registrar's desk: *T.A. Havemeyer's lilacs reviewed*. Lilacs 27:30-31.

■ *An inventory database of lilacs and its function*. Lilacs 27:43-44.

■ *Lilac cultivar name registrations 1997*. HortScience 33:588-589.

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■ From the registrar's desk: *Syringa L. 'Dancing Druid', Fiala 1969: of what parentage?* Lilacs 27:88.

■ From the registrar's desk: *The Gardner brothers and their lilacs*. Lilacs 27:89-90.

■ From the registrar's desk: *Fr. J. Thomayer [1856-1938]: Czech plantsman and lilac originator*. Lilacs 27:102-104.

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In addition, an article by Liz Primeau, Canadian Gardening 9(2):20,22,24, contains extensive quotations by and references to Wayne Staley.

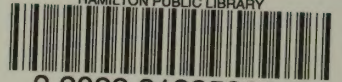
RBG Publications

Three issues of RBG's journal *Pappus* were published in 1998.

The Newsletter of the Canadian Botanical Conservation Network, which regularly contains articles written by David Galbraith, was published three times in 1998.

¹ An article in *Canadian Rosarian* was attributed to George Pagowski in error; the author was George Vorauer, not of the R.B.G. staff.

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